



JUNE 2011

OUR CITY

A Newsletter for Bend Citizens

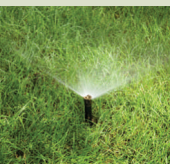
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In This Issue:



**Growing
Jobs
in Bend**

**Stormwater
Education
Campaign**



**Get
WaterWise**

**The City
Saves
Money**



City Council

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GROWING JOBS IN BEND

After 12 months of planning, the City is launching a multi-faceted economic development program designed to promote sustained job growth in Bend. The program will streamline the business development process within the City to help local companies grow and market the City as business-friendly to attract new companies and jobs.

The program will be overseen by the Bend Economic Development Advisory Board (BEDAB), a volunteer group of local business leaders who have been advising the City on innovative and proactive ways to bring jobs to our community. BEDAB was formed in 2009 and will become an official City Council-appointed advisory board on July 1. BEDAB members will provide input on City policies and procedures from a private sector perspective, facilitate entrepreneurial support and connect businesses to community services, brand and market Bend as "open for business," and organize and oversee City programs and efforts applied to economic development.

BEDAB has begun work on four priority economic development and job creation projects. The board currently manages the Bend Opportunity Fund, a grant program for local small businesses based on newly created jobs. To date, the Bend Opportunity Fund has helped add more than 50 new jobs in our community.



Working with Visit Bend, BEDAB will continue to execute and expand the marketing campaign for in-migration of new businesses, residents and jobs. BEDAB also coordinates the Tenant Relocation Program which offers reduced City planning and building fees to local companies that are growing and adding new jobs. Another priority project is identifying and removing roadblocks to business development in the City, making it more efficient for companies to grow. Efforts are underway to streamline the City's development code, update its design standards and specifications and modernize its municipal code.

Assisting BEDAB with the coordination and execution of these and other economic development projects is Jon Skidmore, the City of Bend Business Advocate. In addition, Skidmore will serve as a liaison between existing and new businesses and City Administration, providing advocacy and facilitation services. He comes to the City with several years of private sector business and project development experience.

For more info, call 541-693-2175.

WaterWise Tips

1. Water one inch every four days.
2. Adjust your watering time as the weather changes and apply only what your plants need. Better yet buy a smart controller!
3. Set a kitchen timer when watering with a hose.
4. Make sure sprinklers and hoses only water living things.
5. If runoff happens quickly, shorten run times and cycle irrigation system to give water time to soak in between waterings.
6. Water in the early morning when temps are cool and winds light.
7. Use compost to amend sandy soil.
8. Put your lawn mower on a higher setting to reduce evaporation and encourage deeper roots.
9. Use a mulching mower to put nutrients back into your lawn.
10. Apply a minimum amount of organic fertilizer to your grass to avoid thatch buildup, additional water use and increased mowing caused by too much nitrogen.
11. Using more water means using more energy. Replace thirsty landscapes with water-thrifty ones.
12. Aerate lawn to help water reach the roots.

City Council

The Bend City Council meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month. For upcoming meeting dates, agendas and more information, visit www.ci.bend.or.us.

IT'S ALL CONNECTED

Bend's "It's All Connected" stormwater education campaign wants you to clean up your car. The new "We Auto Clean Up Leaks and Spills" advertisement depicts a drywell (a cylindrical cartridge that drops deep into the ground with holes in the sides for stormwater to drain out), a drinking water well and a leaking car. The ad is telling you that what goes into the storm drain, including what's leaking from your car, can end up polluting our waters.



"Whether you are on a private drinking water well, or are served by Avion, Roats, or the City, we all get our drinking water at least in part from groundwater aquifers," says Wendy Edde, Stormwater Program Manager. "Cleaning up leaky cars by using a drip pan, an absorbent material such as kitty litter, and then dry sweeping and properly disposing of the materials will help protect our drinking water quality, and the health of our river."

If you notice a storm drain with pollutants in it, call the Public Works Department at 541-317-3000. For more tips on how you can help protect our waters from stormwater pollution, visit our stormwater resource website at: http://www.ci.bend.or.us/depts/public_works/stormwater/business_and_home_resources.html.

HOW DID THE CITY SAVE MONEY ON THE SURFACEWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT?

Scan this with your smartphone's barcode reader app for more information.



Get *WaterWise*

Every summer, our community's water use jumps from five million gallons of water per day to more than 25 million gallons per day during hot weather periods. The biggest cause is landscape irrigation. The irony? Over-watering is the number one source of plant disease and landscape problems not to mention additional yard work.

Discover how to water your lawn and garden more efficiently instead of just more. Follow the top 12 WaterWise tips and save our most precious natural resource. Whether you do it to conserve money, save energy or maintain the health and natural beauty of the Deschutes River basin, you'll find that it's wise and easy to save water. So save money. Save time. Maybe even save the environment.

www.waterwisetips.org